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Sheryl R. Neumann

Date

May 11, 2004

Signature

Sheryl R. Neumann

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Walter KOLB, et al.

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Conf. No.: 8531

§ Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Appln. No.: 10/630,011

§ Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filing Date: July 30, 2003

§ Attorney Docket No.: 8934-95US (20 009)

Title: CUTTING DEVICE FOR PLANTS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or B are documents, which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

In accordance with the official waiver posted July 11, 2003, wherein the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office officially waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting copies of each cited U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent Application Publications with respect to applications filed after June 30, 2003, we have not included copies of such cited U.S. patent and U.S. Patent Application Publications. However, we will provide copies upon request. Copies of the foreign references are attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

The listed references were cited in a European Search Report (copy enclosed) dated December 18, 2003 from the European Patent Office concerning counterpart European Application No. EP 03 01 7307 or a German Search Report dated July 7, 2003 from the German

Patent Office in counterpart German Application No. 102 34 814.6 (copy enclosed). English translations of pertinent portions of the European and German Search Reports are attached hereto.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or B be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document(s) be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter KOLB, et al.

May 11, 2004
(Date)

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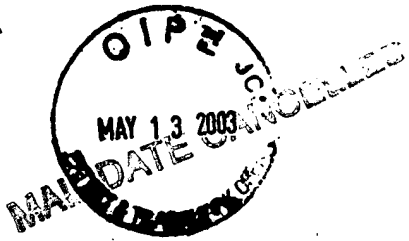
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WWS:sm
Enclosures

Form PTO/SB/08A				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	59/630,011
				Filing Date	July 30, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Walter KOLB, et al.
				Group Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	8934-95US (20 009)

[illegible]

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Exr Initials	Include Name of first Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (where appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date (in parentheses). If a book, also include publisher and city and/or county where published.	T ₁



Attorney Docket No. 8934-95US
(20 009)

**English Translation of Pertinent Portions of European Search Report Dated
December 18, 2003 in Counterpart European Application EP 03 01 7307**

GB 402 223 A is cited as Category X (of particular relevance taken alone) with respect to claims 1, 8 and 9 and Category Y (of particular relevance in connection with another publication of the same category) with respect to claims 3, 11, 16, 18 and 19. See page 2, line 47-page 3, line 32 and figures 1-7.

EP 0 238 827 A is cited as Category X with respect to claims 1 and 10 and Category Y with respect to claims 3, 11, 16, 18 and 19. See column 5, line 50-column 7, line 38 and figures 1-3.

WO 85 055 32 A is cited as Category X with respect to claim 1 and Category Y with respect to claims 3, 11, 16, 18 and 19. See page 2, line 33-page 4, line 34 and figures 1-6 and 10.

GB 328 370 A is cited as Category Y with respect to claims 1, 3 and 16. See the entire document.

US Patent 1,903,183 is cited as Category X with respect to claim 3. See the entire document.

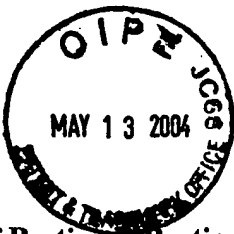
GB 391 054 A is cited as Category Y with respect to claims 11, 18 and 19. See the entire document.

US Patent 2,790,294 is cited as Category A (Technological Background) with respect to claims 1, 3 and 5-9. See the entire document.

WO 81 02967 A is cited as Category Y and also Category D (document set forth in the application) with respect to claims 1, 3, 11, 16, 18 and 19 and Category A with respect to claims 2, 4-15, 17 and 20-23. See page 6, line 7-page 7 line 26 and figures 1-3.

US Patent 3,514,934 A is cited as Category A with respect to 1-23. See the entire document.

US Patent 4,719,743 is cited as Category A with respect to claims 1-23. See the entire document.



Attorney Docket No. 8934-95US
(20 009)

**English Translation of Pertinent Portions of German Search Report Dated
July 7, 2003 in Counterpart German Patent Application 102 34 814.6**

DE 35 43 332 A1 is cited as Category A (General State of the Art Technological Background) with respect to claim 10.

DE 297 03 498 U1 is cited as Category Y (Publication which together with other documents places in question the presence of an inventive activity or an inventive step) with respect to claims 1-5.

EP 00 50 151 B1 is cited as Category X (Publication which alone places in question the novelty or the presence of an inventive activity/an inventive step) with respect to claims 1, 3 and 5.